

Message Text

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64

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 /061 W

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5686

INFO CINCSAC

CSAF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

DOD WASHDC

AMCONSUL ST JOHNS UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 586

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS MARR CA US

SUBJ GOOSEBAY AIR BASE REDUCTIONS

REF STATE 33425

1. POLCOUNSELOR DELIVERED AIDE MEMOIRE CONTAINING SUBSTANCE PARAS 1 AND 2 REFTEL TO EXTAFF DIRECTOR DEFENSE RELATIONS C.J. MARSHALL FEBRUARY 18. MARSHALL ACKNOWLEDGED THAT REDUCTIONS AT GOOSE BAY NOT UNEXPECTED BUT GOC UNDERSTANDABLY CONCERNED OVER ECONOMIC IMPACT IN AREAS WHERE USAF CONSTITUTES LARGEST SINGLE EMPLOYER. HE WONDERED IF EXTAFF COULD BE PROVIDED WITH THE RATIONALE FOR THE REDUCTIONS, HAVING IN MIND THAT IF RATIONALE BASED AT LEAST IN PART ON FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS, INTERESTED GOC DEPARTMENTS/ MINISTRIES MIGHT BE ENCOURAGED TO "SWEETEN THE POT" IN ORDER TO KEEP USAF OPERATIONS GOING.

2. HE ALSO REQUESTED SOME FURTHER ELABORATION CONCERNING THE USAF ACCESS DESIRED IN THE FUTURE AND THE EXTENT OF ANY CONTINUING USAF PRESENCE AT GOOSE BAY. FOR INSTANCE, ON ASSUMPTION TYPE OF ACCESS DESIRED IN THE FUTURE MIGHT COME DURING ALERT OF US FORCES, HE WONDERED IF GOC COULD BE PROVIDED WITH SPECIFICS CONCERNING EXTENT OF FACILITIES REQUIRED TO BE PERMANENTLY MAINTAINED AND WHETHER
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US CONTEMPLATES CARETAKER ACTIVITIES BY USAF AND IF SO, THE EXTENT THEREOF. HE ALSO RAISED THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT THE CARE-

TAKER OPERATIONS OR CONTINUING ACCESS BY USAF WOULD REQUIRE A NEW AGREEMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE WONDERED IF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT ON SAC DISPERSAL CURRENTLY BEING CONSIDERED COULD CONCEIVABLY COVER FUTURE ACCESS TO GOOSE BAY.

3. MARSHALL INDICATED THAT GOC CONSIDERS IT QUITE APPROPRIATE FOR THIS MATTER TO BE DEALT WITH IN NEXT PJBD MEETING MARCH 18 AT WHICH TIME HE HOPED INFORMATION ON ABOVE-RASIED MATTERS WOULD BE AVAILABLE. HE WAS PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO KNOW IN ADVANCE OF PJBD MEETING WHETHER ANY CONCEIVABLE ASSUMPTION OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR BASE ACTIVITIES BY GOC ENTITIES WOULD INDUCE USAF TO CONTINUE OPERATIONS AND THEREBY CONTINUE ASSIST ECONOMY OF AREA. IF SUCH POSSIBILITY EXISTS, EXTAFF WILL SEEK SECURE FINANCIAL PLEDGES FROM GOC ENTITIES TO PRESENT AT PJBD MEETING. IF THERE IS NO SUCH POSSIBILITY, GOC WOULD WANT SPARE ITSELF UN-NECESSARY WORK.
PORTER

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